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**Written Testimony for the
Higher Education & Workforce Advancement Committee
From
Judith B. Greiman
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
March 1, 2012**

On behalf of the member institutions of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges (CCIC), **I am submitting testimony opposing S.B. No. 240 (RAISED) AN ACT ALLOWING THE RETENTION OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE COST ALLOWANCE FROM THE CONNECTICUT INDEPENDENT COLLEGE STUDENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR COMPLIANCE AUDITS.**

We oppose passage of S.B. 240, which proposes using up to \$30,000 annually from the appropriation of money for the CICS need-based grant program for use by the Office of Financial & Academic Affairs for administrative purposes. The program has operated without any administrative fees since 1992. At that time, the legislature took away the administrative fee that had been going to the Department of Higher Education.

The program experienced a record cut this year and another significant cut has been proposed for next year. In combination with the impact that the weakened economy has had on student need, the CICS dollars are already stretched thin with many eligible students not receiving the grant due to a lack of funding. This is not the year to go back on our long-standing tradition of no overhead for our need-based grant programs.

Albertus Magnus College, Connecticut College, Fairfield University, Goodwin College,
Mitchell College, Quinnipiac University, Rensselaer at Hartford, Sacred Heart University, Saint Joseph College, St. Vincent's College,
Trinity College, University of Bridgeport, University of Hartford, University of New Haven, Wesleyan University, Yale University

